

THE CIPHER EXPOSURE,

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES—DEWITT C. WEST'S OPINION OF TILDEN AND THE DISCLOSURES—HOW OTHER DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS TALK.

Public interest in THE TRIBUNE's disclosures of attempted frauds in Florida is unabated, and politicians have not wearied of discussing the effect on the future of the Democratic party. The prospects of the men who are directly implicated by the dispatches are not discussed, however, for it is universally conceded that their political future is a blank. Talks with DeWitt C. West, Ira Shafer, Rufus F. Andrews, Algernon S. Sullivan and others are given below. A great variety of extracts, both from Republican and Democratic journals, is also presented.

A FIELD WHERE LITTLE WAS GLEANED.
MR. CLINTON HAS NO TIME TO TALK ABOUT CIPHERS—WHAT THE SURROGATE AND MR. VAN-
DERRILT SAID.

The Vanderbilt will ease draws together a number of prominent Democrats at every session. A THUNDER reporter thought it a good field for getting views on the Florida ether dispatches. Judge Black was absent yesterday, and, of course, could not be approached. Surrogate Calvin was found in his private office. "I have been so busily engaged," he said, "upon the hearing and examination of the cases before me that I have not found time to see what the papers were publishing. I have not read the dispatches, and don't know what they are. Are they interesting?" When the Surrogate had left the room during a short recess in the will case, the reporter asked Henry L. Clinton if he could speak with him three minutes after adjournment. "Perhaps there will be time enough now," said Mr. Clinton, coming to the desk where the reporter was sitting. "What is it about?"

"About ether dispatches."

"Yes—ah! here comes the Surrogate. He will be here in a few minutes," said Mr. Clinton, and he quickly

before into his seat. It was several minutes after court proceedings were resumed. Presently Mr. Clinton glanced around and saw the reporter sitting in the same place. A moment later there came this message from Mr. Clinton: "I shall not have two minutes to spare time during the next four days. It will be useless for you to try to speak to me."

After the adjournment, Mr. Clinton stood leisurely chatting with several young men. Turning around he saw THE THINKER reporter standing near him. He hastily grabbed his brief-bag and his umbrella and ejaculating, "I haven't got two seconds to spare," started for the outside door at the next rapid of pace.

—WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT.

as he rose from his chair after the noon adjournment. "Why, I don't know anything about them—haven't read them. I don't take any part or interest in politics, you know," and Mr. Vanderbilt poked Augustus Schell playfully in the ribs as he repeated: "I don't take any interest in politics, you know."

Y., was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, and in conversation with a TRIBUNE reporter gave his views on the celebrated Florida dispatches, as follows:

"Although I have been an active member of the same

political party as Mr. Tilden for years, I have never regarded him as the model reformer and embodiment of purity in politics that his intimate friends have held him up to be, and therefore I cannot say that I am entirely surprised at the publication of these cipher dispatches. I am, however astonished at the death of moral and

political turpitude they exhibit. Several months ago I expressed myself to a reporter of *The Chicago Tribune* as regarding the Potter investigation as an ill-timed movement, because I thought it would probably force out some such unpleasant things. I did not know of the existence of these dispatches, though I heard of the Oregon dispatches at the time they were sent. I was told in 1876 in a very direct way by a person high in the confidence of Mr. Tilden, that an electoral vote in Louisiana and one in Florida

had been offered for sale, the former for \$200,000 and the latter for \$100,000. Of course they could not have been offered unless some one was ready to receive the offer.

"While I am greatly astonished at the character of these dispatches, I may say that I am astounded that they should have been traced by THE TRIBUNE to Mr. Tilden's house. He is a man who does not delectate his name of action, he others, but who desires them as great

or organization formed, he is personally at the bottom of them. I think unless he satisfactorily explains his connection with these dispatches they will entirely exclude him from any possibility of being a Presidential candidate in 1880, and will in fact retire him politically. It may have the effect of shifting the next Presidential candidate to the West, though Mr. Bayard is favorably mentioned. Mr. Thurman has been thought of as a good candidate, but there may be reasons now why some other person should be chosen.

In conclusion, I think that the publication of the telegraphic telegrams and their translation had created

great excitement throughout the State, at least wherever he had been lately, and there was great demand for THE TRIBUNE. It was regarded as an extraordinary journalistic feat.

MR. TILDEN'S EPITAPH.

District-Attorney Woodford as he sat in his elegantly furnished official chamber yesterday, looked brightly and good-natured after his Western political tour. He thought a moment before replying to the question about the cipher telegrams. "You see," he said, "I am the senior counsel in a suit against Mr.

Tilden, in which either dispatches are also playing a prominent part. It would hardly be proper for me, under the circumstances, to give expression to my views as to the ethics of such methods as appear to have been used by Mr. Tilden."

"Would that prevent you from expressing an opinion as to the political effect of the publication?" was inquired.

As to that you may say that I believe the dispatches will prove, as far as his political life is concerned, to be the epitaph of Mr. Tilden's tombstone, and more that he will be buried so deep that no resurrection will ever raise him up.

AN END OF MANTON MARBLE.

"If these dispatches are authentic," said Rufus F. Andrews yesterday, "and THE TRIBUNE has furnished a correct translation of

them, all can say is they will prove the utter ruin and destruction of all concerned in them, and will seriously damage the Democratic party in the coming Fall election in this State."

"Do you think, Mr. Andrews, that Mr. Tilden was cognizant of those dispatches at the time they were

"Well, to my mind, the fact that they were sent from and received at No. 15 Gramercy Park, is conclusive proof that he knew all about them. Anyhow, it is an end of Stanton-Marble."

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GENERAL PRYOR'S OPINION.

In speaking of the cipher dispatches, General Roger A. Pryor said last evening:

"I don't believe Mr. Tilden is a possible candidate for the Presidency in 1880, independently of the cipher dispatches; but whatever chance he may have has, unquestionably, been destroyed by these dispatches."

unearthed by THE TRIBUNE. Upon the evidence I believe that the cipher dispatches are genuine and authentic and upon the evidence I must believe that Tilden was accessory to these dispatches both before and after the fact."

MR. SHAFER ON THE GREAT REFORMER.

Ira Shafer was seen yesterday in his office in the Equitable Building and asked what he thought of the cipher dispatches published in THE TRIBUNE.

"I have been so very busy with the Stewart will case," he said, "that I have had no time to read the papers."

but I have laid THE TRIBUNE by and the first opportunity that offers will read up on those dispatches. Until then, I would not like to say anything for fear of hurting somebody's feelings. But you can say that I would be extremely sorry to hear that, that "Great Reformer," (and a sardonic smile showed itself for a moment on the round, gold-humored face of the lawyer), "Samuel J. Tilden, had been caught doing anything wrong. Perish the thought!"

John B. Haskin said last evening in regard to the cipher dispatches:
 "I think Mr. Tilden is out of the question hereafter. He is sixty-six years of age, and (with a phras and a